Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 33, from line 7 through line 20, with the following paragraph:

--The 46 bp constituting the f1 double-stranded origin of replication (5'-CGTCGACCTCGATTGTTCCAGTTTGGAACAAGAGTCCACTATTAAAGAACGTGGACTCGTACCC-3' [SEQ ID NO: 21]; the double-stranded origin is underlined; the incised strand is complementary to the sequence shown)was inserted as a synthetic 46 bps oligomer between the *KpnI* and *XhoI* sites of pBC SK$^+$ (~~Figure 6~~, SEQ ID NO: 1). The wild type *LoxP* site (5'-CGAATTGGAGCTATAACTTCGTATAATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATCATATGGCGGTGGCGGCCGCTCTAGAAC-3' [SEQ ID NO: 16]; the *LoxP* site is underlined) was inserted as a 34 bps oligomer between the *SacI* and *SacII* sites of pBC SK$^+$. A plasmid containing both elements was generated by combining the appropriate *ScaI-EcoRI* fragments. The resulting cassette containing the *LoxP* and f1 double-stranded origin inserted into the polylinker was then transferred as a *BssHII* fragment to the BluescriptII SK$^+$ from which the function elements of the f1 origin located between nucleotides 90 and 583 has been deleted by PCR. Finally, the *β-gal* gene was inserted as a *BamHI-SalI* fragment from pCH110 (Pharmacia Biotech) between the *BamHI* and *HindIII* sites.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 32, from line 5 through line 17, with the following paragraph:

-- Following selection of host cells comprising the rescued product vector using any of the methods described hereinabove, the product vector may be isolated from either the primary or secondary host cell by any means known in the art, or described in numerous laboratory texts and manuals including Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (2nd Ed.), Vol. 1-3, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1989. Briefly, the host cell containing the product vector is grown overnight in appropriate medium such as Luria Broth with antibiotics appropriate for the selectable marker expressed by the product vector at 37° C. The host cells are then centrifuged to separate them from the growth medium, and lysed under alkaline conditions. Plasmid DNA may subsequently be purified by cesium chloride high speed

centrifugation, followed by ethanol precipitation, or may be purified using commercially available kits such as ~~StrataPrep~~STRATAPREP® (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) Silica based fiber matrix for plasmid DNA purification. Conformation of the identity of the product vector may be performed by any technique known in the art including restriction endonuclease digestion, or Southern analysis.--

Please add the following new TWO paragraphs at page 6, between lines 18 and 19:

-- Also disclosed herein is a pair of vectors comprising: a first vector comprising: (a) a gene of interest, a gene encoding a first selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon; and a site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein said gene of interest is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and (b) a second vector comprising: a negative selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon, a site-specific recombination recognition site, a single-stranded origin of replication, and a gene encoding a second selectable marker, wherein said gene encoding said negative selectable marker is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein in one or both of said first and second vectors there is no second site-specific recombinase recognition site between said double-stranded origin of replication and said site-specific recombinase recognition site. The gene encoding one of said first or second selectable markers in these vectors, is selected from the group consisting of: kanamycin resistance gene, the ampicillin resistance gene, the spectinomycin resistance gene, the gentamycin resistance gene, the tetracycline resistance gene, the chloramphenicol resistance gene, the streptomycin resistance gene, the *strA* gene, and the *sacB* gene.--

-- Further described herein is a pair of vectors comprising: (a) a first vector comprising: a cloning site for insertion of a gene of interest, a gene encoding a first selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon; and a site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein said cloning site for insertion of a gene of interest is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and (b) a second vector comprising: a negative

selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon, a site-specific recombination recognition site, a single-stranded origin of replication, and a gene encoding a second selectable marker, wherein said negative selectable marker is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein in one or both of said first and second vectors there is no second site-specific recombinase recognition site between said double-stranded origin of replication and said site-specific recombinase recognition site.--

Please add the following TWO new paragraphs at page 7, between lines 19 and 20:

-- Also disclosed is a kit for the transfer of a gene of interest to a product vector comprising:(a) a first vector comprising: a gene of interest, a gene encoding a first selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon; and a site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein said gene of interest is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and (b) a second vector comprising: a negative selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon, a site-specific recombination recognition site, a single-stranded origin of replication, and a gene encoding a second selectable marker, wherein said negative selectable marker is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and packaging materials therefore, wherein in one or both of said first and second vectors there is no second site-specific recombinase recognition site between said double-stranded origin of replication and said site-specific recombinase recognition site.--

-- Also disclosed is a kit for the transfer of a gene of interest to a product vector comprising: (a) a first vector comprising: a cloning site for insertion of a gene of interest, a gene encoding a first selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon; and a site-specific recombination recognition site, wherein said cloning site for insertion of a gene of interest is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and (b) a second vector comprising: a negative selectable marker, a double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon, a site-specific recombination recognition site, a single-stranded origin of replication, and a gene encoding a second selectable marker, wherein said negative selectable

marker is interposed between said double-stranded origin of replication of a rolling circle replicon and said site-specific recombination recognition site; and packaging materials therefore, wherein in one or both of said first and second vectors there is no second site-specific recombinase recognition site between said double-stranded origin of replication and said site-specific recombinase recognition site.--